

procurement of goods or services by the Federal government to small businesses owned and controlled by women who are economically disadvantaged.

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HONORING SENATOR SPENCER ABRAHAM

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 15, 2000*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize my good friend from the other body, Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM.

Senator ABRAHAM is a good American and a great Michigander. Over the years, I have gotten to know Senator ABRAHAM well and I can truly say his family has lived the American dream. His maternal grandfather came to America from Lebanon, began a new life in America as a peddler and eventually opened his own grocery store. His paternal grandfather was also a Lebanese immigrant who worked in the West Virginia coal mines before seeking a better life in Michigan as an auto-worker and grocery store owner. SPENCE's dad was also an autoworker, and with his wife, owned a small shop in downtown Lansing.

As Michigan's U.S. Senator, SPENCER put the strong values he learned from his family into action. He worked hard and lived his dream. SPENCE was the first member of his family to attend college and went on to earn his law degree. Prior to serving as our Senator, SPENCER served as Michigan's Republican Chairman and in the Reagan Administration.

Since Senator ABRAHAM's election in 1994, I have had the distinct opportunity to work with him on a host of issues of importance both to the people of our state and the nation. And, his record speaks for itself. As a United States Senator, he has truly been a workhorse—and it's paid off. Senator ABRAHAM is one of the few Members of the Senate that can say 16 bills he wrote have been signed into law.

One of the things I am most proud of is our work this past Congress to protect kids across America from the dangers of "date rape" drugs. By working together, we were able to write and pass a bill that outlaws the dangerous substance, GHB, and its close chemical cousins. This legislation was named in memory of Samantha Reid, a southeast Michigan teenager who died in 1999 after drinking from a can of Mountain Dew that was secretly laced with GHB.

I would personally like to thank Senator ABRAHAM for his assistance this past year to secure badly needed funds from Southwest Michigan's farmers whose crops had been devastated by fireblight. By working together we were able to deliver much needed relief to these farmers.

Mr. Speaker, Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM has left a distinct mark on our nation. I submit my remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to ensure that future generations have the opportunity to be inspired by the contributions of Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM of Michigan.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY RESCUE MISSION OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 15, 2000*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw, Michigan. The dedicated support and dependable guidance of this organization has lifted the spirits of many homeless men, women and children for nearly a century.

Since 1905, the City Rescue Mission has stood as a beacon of hope for the homeless and economically disadvantaged throughout Saginaw County. The mission has a proud history of stepping up to the plate to move the less fortunate from dependency to self-sufficiency in a manner that respects individuals by providing them with the resources necessary for them to share in the fortunes of our society and ultimately to contribute back to our community.

The Rescue Mission's light still shines brightly as it continues to develop new and progressive methods to help the less fortunate find paths to success. Recently, the Mission opened the Frank N. Andersen Family Empowerment Center and enhanced its Literacy Education Center with a new computer lab and software programs to tutor users in math, information skills, writing, language arts and reading. As a result, many clients have been able to successfully complete General Education Development certificate requirements as a first step to full and meaningful employment.

Throughout the years, the City Rescue Mission has been blessed by an outpouring of volunteer help and financial assistance from community-minded benefactors who seek to share in caring for the needy and promoting economic and spiritual salvation. Clearly, the Mission is more effective today than at any other time in its long and honorable history.

Mr. Speaker, the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw has transformed for the better the lives of those who cross its threshold and take part in its ministry. It is especially gratifying to have such an organization in Michigan's Fifth Congressional District. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in offering a heartfelt thank-you to the Mission for a job well-done and wishing them many years of continued success on behalf of those in need.

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TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT K. REAVES, OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT AND CONSERVATION LEADER

**HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 15, 2000*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the leadership and outstanding public service of a member of our federal workforce.

After nearly 45 years of service, Robert K. Reaves will retire on January 3, 2001 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Re-

*January 2, 2001*

sources Conservation Service. In his role in public service, Bob set an example for everyone with a strong commitment to excellence, dedication to integrity, and an enthusiasm for conservation of natural resources.

Mr. Reaves was born and raised in the Washington, DC area and spent time in his youth working on his Uncle's tobacco farm in North Carolina. He attended George Washington University and received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

In February of 1956 he began federal service with United States Geological Survey as a chemical technician in water quality. In May of 1969, Bob joined the United States Department of Agriculture's Research Service, as a program analyst. He served the Department in several capacities related to the budget development.

In 1981, Bob joined the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). For nearly two decades, Bob provided top-level expertise on conservation issues, including serving as the Budget Officer for NRCS. In 1997-98, Mr. Reaves was a key advisor in the USDA Civil Rights review and helped develop budget initiatives to support Civil Rights initiatives and several other key areas of Department Administration.

In his role with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Mr. Reaves has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to public awareness of conservation issues, and has served as a source of expertise on national issues for executive branch and legislative branch officials alike. He is also a leading advocate for conservation funding, and has appeared before committees of this Congress on several occasions to support private lands conservation. The individual accomplishments of Mr. Reaves are many, but his years of service are a testament to his dedication, integrity and commitment to his work.

After 45 years of federal service, Bob will have a chance to share the fruits of retirement with his wife, Peggy and pursue hobbies including woodworking, and gardening. Although he will be missed by his colleagues at the Department and many friends here on Capitol Hill, we wish him the very best in his future pursuits. We thank him and salute him for a job well done and wish him well as he embarks upon new frontiers and endeavors that retirement will offer.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 15, 2000*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote 603 (H.R. 4577). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."